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Letter dated 31 May 2013 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), and with reference to paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 1977 (2011), I have the honour to transmit herewith the twelfth programme of work of the Committee for the period from 1 June 2013 to 31 May 2014 (see annex).

The Committee would appreciate it if the present letter and its annex could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) **Kim** Sook
Chair
Security Council Committee established
pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

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Annex

Programme of work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) for the period from 1 June 2013 to 31 May 2014

I. Introduction

1. The Security Council, in paragraph 4 of its resolution 1977 (2011), decided that the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) should submit an annual programme of work to the Council before the end of each May. The twelfth programme of work of the Committee covers the period from 1 June 2013 to 31 May 2014. The Committee has agreed on the following work programme to fulfil its responsibilities under Council resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008) and 1977 (2011).

2. The Security Council, in paragraph 9 of its resolution 1977 (2011), decided that the Committee should continue to intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation by all States of resolution 1540 (2004) through its programme of work. This includes the compilation and general examination of information on the status of States' implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), in addition to States' efforts at outreach, dialogue, assistance and cooperation, and addresses in particular all aspects of paragraphs 1 to 3 of that resolution, which encompasses accountability, physical protection, border controls and law enforcement efforts, and national export and trans-shipment controls, including controls on providing funds and services such as financing to such exports and trans-shipments. It also includes, as necessary, specific priorities for its work, taking into account its annual review on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), prepared with the assistance of the group of experts before the end of each December.

3. The Committee will continue to work with Member States on the implementation of resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008) and 1977 (2011), guided by the principles of transparency, equal treatment, cooperation and consistency in its approach.

4. In order to implement the twelfth programme of work more efficiently, the Committee will continue to operate a system of four working groups, open to all its members. The working groups will focus on important and recurring issues. Each working group has specific tasks related to the programme of work, which are noted within each of the main sections below. Each working group will be chaired by a member of the Committee and support will be provided by the Secretariat and the Committee's group of experts. In addition, the Committee will publish a schedule for periodic meetings of all four working groups that strives to meet its objectives efficiently and promptly. Such a schedule will include periodic feedback by the working groups responsible for monitoring progress on monitoring and national implementation, assistance, cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001), and transparency and media outreach.

5. All working group meetings will be open to and announced to all Council delegations. All meetings documents will be circulated to all Council delegations prior to meetings. The work will be organized in a manner that enables all

delegations, regardless of size, to participate fully in all the activities of the working groups. The Committee will promote greater transparency by, where relevant, holding open meetings on those working group outcomes approved by the Committee and by communicating those outcomes to national contact points. The Committee, in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information, will also update its website regularly.

II. Tasks of the Committee and its four working groups

6. The Committee will focus its attention on, but not limit it to, the following main areas of work: (a) monitoring and national implementation; (b) assistance; (c) cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001); and (d) transparency and media outreach. In addition, the Committee will consider issues related to administration and resources.

(a) Monitoring and national implementation:

(i) Prepare a review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) before 31 December 2013, in line with the requirements of paragraph 9 of resolution 1977 (2011), and address all aspects of resolution 1540 (2004), in particular all aspects of its paragraphs 1 to 3, including developing and maintaining efforts to implement resolution 1540 (2004) in accordance with national legal authorities and legislation, and consistent with international law, and with a view to including a brief update on the status of implementation of the tasks contained in the current programme of work and, as necessary, specific priorities for its work in the next programme of work;

(ii) With the objective of achieving universal reporting by the end of 2014, the 10-year anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004), strengthen its efforts to encourage States that have not yet submitted their first report to do so, including by examining why some States have not yet submitted a report; by exploring and executing more effective ways of obtaining missing information; by researching publicly available websites of Governments and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations in order to identify legislation and other measures for States that have yet to submit a report and, in an effort to encourage them to prepare and submit their first report, share that information with those States in the form of a matrix; and by developing a network of points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004);

(iii) Review the matrices for all States Members of the United Nations by the end of the twelfth programme of work. With the aim of ensuring that the matrices are "living documents", continue examining incoming first reports and submissions of additional information from States, researching available websites of Governments and international, regional and subregional organizations, and conducting dialogue with States (including during country visits at the invitation of States), and participate in relevant outreach or implementation activities to gather relevant information on national implementation efforts. Make the findings of these examinations available to States in the form of a matrix, together with requests for clarification or updates on relevant legislation and enforcement measures, and encourage

States to strengthen their efforts to regularly share with the Committee information that updates their efforts to implement resolution 1540 (2004);

(iv) Encourage States, in line with paragraphs 7 and 12 of resolution 1977 (2011), to identify and voluntarily report effective national practices in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) so that they might be used in providing further general and specific guidance, upon request, to States seeking assistance in implementing the resolution;

(v) Encourage all States, under paragraph 8 of resolution 1977 (2011), to prepare on a voluntary basis national implementation action plans, with the assistance of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), as appropriate, mapping out their priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of resolution 1540 (2004), and to submit those plans to the Committee;

(vi) With input from the Committee's working groups on monitoring and national implementation, on assistance and on cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001), and drawing on information voluntarily reported by States in line with subparagraph 6 (a) (iv) above and from international, regional and subregional bodies in line with subparagraph 6 (c) (ii) below, identify, prepare and make available, as appropriate, a compilation of effective practices in accordance with paragraphs 7 and 12 of resolution 1977 (2011);

(vii) With input from the Committee's working groups on monitoring and national implementation and on assistance, initiate, by requests to States, an update of the legislative database, and encourage States to make appropriate use of the background information provided through it by endeavouring to make it more user-friendly and responsive to the interests expressed by States;

(viii) Continue to raise awareness about those multilateral treaties and conventions that aim to prevent the proliferation of, or to eliminate, nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and in the context of paragraph 8 (a) of resolution 1540 (2004), to promote the universal adoption, full implementation and, where necessary, strengthening of multilateral treaties to which States are parties, whose aim is to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, biological or chemical weapons;

(ix) Continue consideration of the obligations and requirements under resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008) and 1977 (2011) to identify areas for further work by the Committee, and encourage implementation and review progress in such areas through active cooperation with relevant States, as well as with international, regional and subregional organizations. In this regard, consider what methodologies might be appropriate to produce quantitative measures of success within the terms of resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008), and 1977 (2011);

(b) Assistance:

(i) Collect up-to-date information on requests for or interest in assistance by States and offers of, interest in and programmes of assistance by States and international, regional and subregional organizations, clarifying, as appropriate,

whether existing offers have been met, and otherwise promote assistance, in close consultation with the States concerned, and maintain such information in a regularly updated database;

(ii) Conduct more overviews of the requests, offers and related assistance programmes to develop more effective matching strategies;

(iii) Promote and conduct country-specific visits, at the invitation of States, to better understand the challenges of national implementation and to better develop strategies tailored to facilitate national implementation and, where appropriate, help States to obtain assistance;

(iv) With input from the Committee's working group on assistance and from its working group on cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001), where appropriate, continue to organize and participate in outreach activity at the international, regional and subregional levels and, where appropriate, with States, to facilitate the coordination of assistance programmes, promote the sharing of experience, lessons learned and effective practices with a view to their inclusion in a compilation, in line with subparagraph 6 (a) (vi) above, collect information on requests for, offers of, or interest in assistance that the Committee, with the consent of the relevant States, will include in its official list of requests and offers, and liaise on the availability of programmes that might facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(v) Encourage and, where appropriate, provide assistance to States to integrate their obligations to implement resolution 1540 (2004) into their pursuit of other international obligations and broader national objectives convergent with the resolution;

(vi) Implement and continually review current procedures on processing incoming assistance requests and offers of assistance, and provide regular updates on the status of requests and offers to the parties involved;

(vii) Provide, upon request, information to Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations to help them to make more effective offers of, or, for States, more effective requests for assistance, for example, using the matrix and the assistance template as tools, including the preparation of requests for assistance if asked;

(viii) In cases in which States prefer not to post their matrix, seek their consent to share the said matrix, as appropriate, with potential assistance partners;

(ix) Consider regional approaches to assistance needs and efforts to meet them, including requests for assistance made through regional organizations, or jointly by States members of customs unions, free trade zones, or zones free of nuclear weapons or weapons of mass destruction, and prepare a report on these opportunities before the end of the twelfth programme of work;

(c) Cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001):

(i) Enhance its cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations, and develop ways of operating with those organizations on a case-by-case basis, reflecting the variation in each organization's capacity and mandate, including exchanges at the working level, briefings to and from the Committee, and enhanced information-sharing arrangements;

(ii) To help achieve this objective, establish a set of strategic goals and specific objectives for its work with the international, regional and subregional organizations with which it cooperates by the end of the twelfth programme of work. This initial strategy should focus on the exchange of information on actions taken to foster implementation of the resolution, points of contact and effective practices and assistance, against which the Committee can review its efforts in subsequent programmes of work;

(iii) Expand both formal and informal working relationships with international non-proliferation mechanisms, including zones free of nuclear weapons or weapons of mass destruction, work streams of the Nuclear Security Summit, and other United Nations bodies and international, regional and subregional organizations, where applicable:

a. To facilitate the sharing of information on effective practices and lessons learned, in addition to templates and guidance, including with a view to their incorporation into the compilation envisaged in subparagraph 6 (a) (vi) below;

b. To identify assistance requirements and programmes whereby its work with international, regional and subregional organizations can focus on facilitating the activity of those organizations to remedy national implementation challenges, such as reconciling priorities, harmonizing approaches, facilitating advisory and drafting services, and matching requests and offers of assistance, and to promote regional cooperation and communication on the implementation of the resolution;

c. To enhance information-sharing, coordination on visits to countries, within their respective mandates, technical assistance and other issues of relevance to the Committee and the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001), as appropriate;

(iv) Under paragraph 18 of resolution 1977 (2011), continue to encourage international, regional and subregional organizations to designate and provide a point of contact or coordinator for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by 31 December 2013, and maintain up-to-date information on such contacts;

(v) Maintain dialogue and information exchange with designated points of contact or coordinators on issues related to their contribution to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(vi) Continue to participate in major events organized by international, regional and subregional organizations as an opportunity for dialogue with them and their points of contact or coordinators;

(vii) Lead work with the other related Committees, their experts and monitoring teams, to expand the common strategy on reporting;

(viii) Continue to participate in the joint briefings to the Security Council;

(d) Transparency and media outreach:

(i) Increase interaction on a regular basis with all States Members of the United Nations, including, where appropriate, through open meetings as noted in paragraph 20 of resolution 1977 (2011), and by regularly updating its website;

(ii) With input from the working group on monitoring and national implementation, post updated matrices on the website, as appropriate;

(iii) Publish on the Committee's website the calendar of outreach events and workshops conducted, sponsored or co-sponsored by the Committee or Member States, in addition to information notes on such activities, and update and maintain a list of frequently asked questions about, among other things, the work, membership, Chair, coordinators, group of experts and implementation;

(iv) Produce and update regularly, and at least monthly, a calendar of outreach events or similar activities, covering periods of at least six months into the future, that includes information on other activities of relevant States, international, regional and subregional organizations, the Counter-Terrorism Committee, the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) and other United Nations bodies;

(v) Encourage States to promote dialogue and cooperation, including with civil society and academia, to address the threat posed by illicit trafficking in nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, and related materials;

(vi) Encourage States to develop appropriate ways to work with and inform industry regarding its obligations under national laws in line with subparagraph 8 (d) of resolution 1540 (2004);

(vii) Consider and seize opportunities, as appropriate, for direct interaction, with their States' consent, with relevant industries and industry groups, academia and civil society;

(viii) Identify opportunities to highlight the threat of weapons of mass destruction falling into the hands of non-State actors;

(ix) Increase efforts to raise awareness among parliamentarians and other high-level decision makers;

(x) In line with subparagraphs 5 (b) and 22 (d) of resolution 1977 (2011), prepare a report before the end of the twelfth programme of work on ways to better utilize and maintain expertise, including, in particular, of former experts of the group, that could be made available for specific missions and assistance needs regarding the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(xi) Continue to brief the Security Council, Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations, formally and informally, about the work of the Committee and the obligations and requirements under resolution 1540 (2004).

III. Administration and resources

7. The Committee will also consider issues related to administration and resources, including the following:

(a) To address the requirement under subparagraph 22 (a) of resolution 1977 (2011), the Committee should ask the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs to prepare a report on the possibility of strengthening the provision of support by the Office for Disarmament Affairs to the Committee by 1 September 2013, including by strengthening the regional capacity of the Office to provide support for the implementation of the resolution at the regional, subregional and national levels;

(b) Continue to conduct regular meetings of the Committee and its working groups, and, as necessary, additional meetings with relevant parties to further the mandate of resolution 1540 (2004), including meetings that might include participation from capitals on topics of high priority;

(c) Encourage States and international, regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, to provide support for the work of the Committee and its programmes;

(d) Continue to encourage and take full advantage of voluntary financial contributions to assist States in identifying and addressing their needs for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), and, at the Committee's discretion, promote the efficient and effective use of the existing funding mechanisms within the United Nations system;

(e) Continue its efforts to ease the transition of new non-permanent members to the Committee, including by making relevant documentation available and providing appropriate briefings, and maintain the network of non-permanent members leaving the Committee to provide support for implementation of the resolution.